

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: I can tell hon. members that increases corresponding to the other general increases are being attended to.

INDUSTRY**NOVA SCOTIA—EFFECT OF DOSCO PURCHASE ON COAL AND STEEL INDUSTRY**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. J. MacEachen (Inverness-Richmond): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys. Can he tell us whether any studies have been made by the department to determine the possible effect of the purchase of Dosco by A. V. Roe on the Nova Scotia coal and steel industry?

Hon. Paul Comtois (Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys): I shall take note of the question and an answer will be given at the first opportunity.

Mr. Robichaud: May I ask a supplementary question. Is the minister not aware of the situation?

POWER**DISPOSITION OF DOWNSTREAM BENEFITS IN INTERNATIONAL WATERWAYS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. A. Byrne (Kootenay East): I would like to address a question, Mr. Speaker, to the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Can the minister tell us the progress of the high level discussions between Canada and the United States with respect to the disposition of downstream benefits in the international waterways; that is to say, the whole of the international waterways?

Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources): In view of the importance of this matter to the people of Canada I would like to make it very clear that at this time, in the public interest, there will be no statement from the government.

Mr. Byrne: The order in council sets out the terms of reference and—

Some hon. Members: Question, question.

Mr. Byrne: —refers to the international joint commission relating to waters crossing the international boundary and the development of electrical energy therefrom. I would like to ask the minister whether these negotiations are being transferred back to the international joint commission or are they remaining on the high diplomatic level on which they were.

[Mr. Richard (Ottawa East).]

Mr. Hamilton (Qu'Appelle): Mr. Speaker, in answer to the supplementary question I would like to say that there will be a statement by this government, not at this time, but that the statement will give all the answers and information which it is necessary for the people of Canada to know with regard to these discussions.

Mr. Byrne: The country is definitely interested in this question and I would like to ask that at least on Monday or Tuesday the minister be in a position to tell us whether or not the negotiations have been transferred back to the international joint commission. This is a very important question, and does not require any study.

TRANSPORT**ALBERTA—NORTHWEST TERRITORIES—RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION SURVEY**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. M. A. Hardie (Mackenzie River): Mr. Speaker, can the Minister of Transport inform the house if surveys are going on at the present time in regard to the construction of a railroad from the province of Alberta to the south shore of Great Slave lake in the Northwest Territories?

Hon. George H. Hees (Minister of Transport): The answer, Mr. Speaker, is no.

[Later:]

INQUIRY AS TO APPOINTMENT OF CONTROLLER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. J. A. Smith (Battle River-Camrose): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport, but since he is not in his seat perhaps his parliamentary assistant would take it as notice. Has the Minister of Transport given any thought to the appointment of a transport controller with the authority and responsibility of seeing that there is an equitable distribution of box cars in western Canada at all times?

Mr. A. R. MacDonald (Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Transport): Speaking on behalf of the minister I will take the question as notice and advise that a reply will be forthcoming as soon as possible.

NATIONAL REVENUE**RED DEER, ALTA.—ESTABLISHMENT OF HIGHWAY SUFFERANCE WAREHOUSE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. F. D. Shaw (Red Deer): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Revenue, notice of which has been